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WASHINGTON, D. C., DECEMBER 8, 1881.  
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THE USUAL DOUBLE-SHEET REPUBLICAN OF FIFTY-SIX COLUMNS WILL BE ISSUED ON SATURDAY. Advertisers would do well to send in their notices at once.

The President's Proposition to England.

The most important part of the message, as respects foreign relations, discusses the complications arising from the proposal of Columbia to European powers to guarantee the neutrality of the Republic of the Union. The proposal not only involves the strongest representations which were made by Secretary Blaine at the desire of President Garfield, but makes the important announcement that a formal request has been made to the British government for a modification of those clauses of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty which may be involved. It has been shown that the interests of Secretary Blaine in this matter had been fully sustained by the President, and public opinion will heartily support the Administration in the position it has taken.—New York Tribune.

What could possibly be more "Tribonian" than the above? Public opinion will heartily support the Administration in fully sustaining the course of Secretary Blaine in making strong representations at the desire of President Garfield! True, what Mr. Blaine did at General Garfield's desire was to commence negotiations with Colombia for carrying more fully into effect the treaty of 1846, by which the United States guaranteed its protection to that Republic and neutrality of any canal cut through its territory. True, this is only what is universally desired by our people. No intelligent friend of Mr. Blaine will claim for him any special credit for declaring anew the determination of this Government not to allow an isthmian canal to be under European control. And if there had been any boldness in it, the Tribune says the declaration was made at the desire of President Garfield. How, then, can it be called "the course of Secretary Blaine?" Why not the course of President Garfield?

But, says the Tribune, the President not only "approves the strong representations which were made by Secretary Blaine at the desire of General Garfield," but makes the important announcement that a formal request has been made to the British government for a modification of those clauses of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty that may bear upon the subject." The course of Secretary Blaine in this matter" is then referred to as though he had made the demand upon the British government. But the President says in the message:

Forces the probable reliance of the British government on the protection of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of 1846, as affording room for a claim of the guarantees which the United States gave with Colombia four years before, I have not hesitated to supplement the action of my predecessor by proposing to Her Majesty's government the modification of that instrument and the abrogation of such clauses thereof as do not comport with the interest of the United States toward Colombia, or with the vital needs of the two friendly parties to the compact.

There is a bold and vigorous movement. But it was no part of "the course of Secretary Blaine in this matter." "I have not hesitated," says the President, "to support the action of my predecessor" with the proposition to Her Majesty's government.

It is not at all probable that Mr. Blaine will thank the Tribune for its officious and misplaced laudation. He will not strut in the borrowed plumes which the Tribune seeks to stick in his hat. He will not rest his reputation as a diplomat on having obeyed the directions of General Garfield, or being sustained therein by President Arthur. This Government has been committed by treaty for thirty-five years against allowing European intervention on the Isthmus of Panama. The notice by Mr. Blaine, under President Garfield's direction, to the European powers of adherence to our well-known policy was well enough in view of the Panama Canal project. It is ludicrous, however, to treat it as the "Blaine policy," or anybody's else of this generation, and then to patronize the President for bravely following it. The proposition to England to modify the treaty which Mr. Clayton was disgraced for having made, and which has been held up as a barrier to the assertion of us of the American doctrine of American control on the American continent, is a step of vast importance, and may shortly become the leading national topic. Let it be distinctly remembered that the proposition is President Arthur's, and that it is his policy. The Nation is sick of the mean and pusillanimous talk about the duty of the President to personate somebody else and carry out some imaginary policy supposed to have been bequeathed to him by the dead or marked out for him by the living. The people see that he has an individuality of his own as strong as that of any of his contemporaries, and that he is not borrowing ideas from others.

The Tribune's efforts to belittle the President would not be worthy of notice were they not a part of an extended system in that line. The cranks who run that portion of the Tribune which is not financial are less adroit than any others of their class, and their clumsy meanness in this case afford a salutary text for the remarks we have made.

A calm, dignified, able, and candid message—such is the verdict of the country.

REPUTATION, not mustering out, is the proper work for Republican leaders.

PROSPERITY abides in no community where political intolerance obtains.

## PERSONALITIES.

B. CHATE BROWN is back from Europe safe and sound.

It does not look as though Wolfe had uttered the words "Cameron influence" in Pennsylvania.

Mr. HENRY HARVEY and wife, of Manchester, N. H., have lost all their children, five in number, from scarlet fever within two weeks.

The portrait of Garfield, which is hereafter known the five-cent postage-stamps, is said to be a striking likeness of the late President. Mrs. Field is much pleased with it.

Mr. MESSISON is painting a portrait of Mrs. J. W. C. BREWER, a widow, in a quiet pose, as wearing a costume of black and white. The price to be paid for this portrait is, it is reported, \$100.

On a Babylonian inscription recently presented by the Rev. Canon Tristam at Beirut the name of Nebuchadnezzar is found, and is thought by Sir H. C. Rawlinson as possibly being a record of that monarch's return from the conquest of Egypt.

ADECAEON KIRKBY says when he went to Bed River, in 1852, he was a little boy, and was sent to school, and was compelled to go to bed.

The first little Indian boy he ever saw said he did, and went. That little Indian boy is now James Northway, Prime Minister of Manitoba.

WALT WHITMAN praises Emerson as "the true, saint, most moral, sweetest literary man on record," unequalled by any other writer.

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